

Colorado

Credit Profile

US\$500. mil General Fund Tax & rev antic nts ser 2007A due 06/27/2008

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-----|
| Short Term Rating | SP-1+ | New |
|--------------------------|-------|-----|

Rationale

The 'SP-1+' short-term rating on Colorado's general fund TRANs series 2007A reflects the state's:

- Good 1.49x cash coverage of notes at maturity by the state's projected general fund cash balances;
- Strong 5.57x cash coverage including the state's projected other nongeneral fund internally borrowable resources; and
- Strong long-term general creditworthiness ('AA-' lease rating, stable outlook), bolstered by recent increases in general fund tax revenues.

The TRANs are secured by unrestricted general fund revenues available for appropriation attributable to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, and by legally borrowable resources from other state funds. The note resolution requires the state treasurer to deposit funds in a pledged note payment account in the state's general fund in such amounts as is anticipated to cause the balance on June 15, 2008, to equal debt service due on the June 27, 2008, maturity date. If the balance on June 15 is less than required, the state treasurer must deposit all available general fund revenues thereafter received and available to the note payment account and borrow from other available state funds to meet any shortfall.

The 2007A TRANs, which are smaller than the \$700 million 2005A and \$650 million 2006A TRANs, will be used to meet state cash flow needs during fiscal 2008.

The state's cash flow forecast is based on the state office of planning and budgeting's revised June 20, 2007, quarterly update.

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RatingsDirect
Publication Date

June 21, 2007

It projects a positive general fund ending cash balance of \$257.4 million at fiscal year-end June 30, 2008, after repayment of the TRANs, yielding 1.49x cash coverage by projected general fund balances. The state also projects that other internally borrowable nongeneral fund moneys will total \$2.7 billion at fiscal year-end 2008, about the same as at fiscal-year end 2007. The largest portion of projected internally borrowable funds consists of a higher education fund, at \$737.7 million as of June 30, 2008, up \$668.6 million the previous year. The next largest other borrowable fund is projected to be the capital construction fund with \$544.2 million at fiscal year-end 2008, followed by state and local severance tax funds at \$246.9 million. Total projected general fund and nongeneral fund available cash on a combined basis is projected to cover the 2007A TRANs at maturity by a strong 5.57x.

The latest (June 2007) state quarterly forecast continues to anticipate strong revenue growth including a 4.5% increase in fiscal 2008, down slightly from the 7.0% forecasted for fiscal 2007. State revenues have been bolstered by the approval of Referendum C by state voters in November 2005, which went into effect upon passage. Referendum C modified the state's existing Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) constitutional revenue cap. The measure allows the state to retain and spend all TABOR revenue surpluses for five years and sets a new TABOR spending cap thereafter at the highest level of the preceding five years. The state estimates that this will allow for the retention of an additional \$1.3 billion in fiscal 2008 that would otherwise have had to be returned to taxpayers under TABOR. While Referendum C raises revenues that can be kept in the general fund, matching additional spending by the legislature will likely lower actual year-end general fund cash balances over the next few years because excess TABOR revenues will no longer have to be held over as a reserve to be returned to taxpayers in a subsequent year.

The state's cash flow forecasts have been close to actual results since the 2001 recession, when state revenues came in well below projections. The state estimates its series 2006A TRANs will be covered 1.42x by actual fiscal year-end June 30, 2007, general fund cash balances and by all internally borrowable resources—just below the state's original projection of 1.57x general fund cash coverage and 5.44x by all available cash resources.

The state has historically held high levels of other internally borrowable funds. The lowest combined balance of nongeneral fund available borrowable resources since September 1991 has been \$532 million, and other borrowable resources reached \$3.3 billion at the beginning of July 2001. Since 2001 the level of other available funds' cash at year-end has generally stayed above \$2 billion.

Note repayment account investments will be commingled with the general fund as a sub-account. State investment practices remain conservative, although the state does participate in fully collateralized securities lending and can enter into interest rate swap agreements in connection with the investment of note proceeds. The state has two investment pools: one with short-term "cash" investments and another with long-term investments. The weighted average maturity of the treasurer's short-term treasury cash pool was just 47 days as of March 31, 2007, and consisted of high-quality investments. The cash pool held a market value of \$2.125 billion, consisting of 23.0% in federal agencies, 63.0% in CP, 11.9% in money market funds, and 2.1% in certificates of deposit. The longer term treasury pool had a market value of \$2.799 billion as of March 31, 2007, and holds capital funds and other funds with longer term investment needs. The treasury pool had an average maturity of 24.5 months, with 82.9% of 'AAA' quality, primarily in asset-backed securities, and 99.8% of 'A' or better. Both pools are marked to market. As of March 31, 2007, the cash pool's book value was the same as the market value and the treasury pool's book value was \$2.817 billion—slightly above market value.

Additional parity notes are permitted, although the state does not anticipate issuing more general fund cash flow notes. The state does plan to issue \$500 million of separately secured state notes, in two separate sales, to finance local school cash flow. The education notes will be secured by a pledge of revenues from school districts in the pool, a state general fund pledge to pay interest on the school notes, and restricted state nongeneral funds available to support education notes that would be legally unavailable as liquidity for the general fund TRANS.

Ratings Detail (As Of 21-Jun-2007)

Colorado General Fund Tax & rev antic nts ser 2007A due 06/27/2008

Short Term Rating

SP-1+

New Rating

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tel 415 371-5004
reference no.: 846248

June 29, 2007

State of Colorado
140 State Capitol
Denver, CO 80203
Attention: Ms. Cary Kennedy, Colorado State Treasurer

Re: *US\$150,000,000 Colorado, Tax & Revenue Anticipation Notes, (Education Loan Program), Series 2007A, dated: Date of Delivery, due: August 5, 2008*

Dear Ms. Kennedy:

Pursuant to your request for a Standard & Poor's rating on the above-referenced obligations, we have reviewed the information submitted to us and, subject to the enclosed *Terms and Conditions*, have assigned a rating of "SP-1+". Standard & Poor's views the outlook for this rating as not meaningful. A copy of the rationale supporting the rating is enclosed.

The rating is not investment, financial, or other advice and you should not and cannot rely upon the rating as such. The rating is based on information supplied to us by you or by your agents but does not represent an audit. We undertake no duty of due diligence or independent verification of any information. The assignment of a rating does not create a fiduciary relationship between us and you or between us and other recipients of the rating. We have not consented to and will not consent to being named an "expert" under the applicable securities laws, including without limitation, Section 7 of the Securities Act of 1933. The rating is not a "market rating" nor is it a recommendation to buy, hold, or sell the obligations.

This letter constitutes Standard & Poor's permission to you to disseminate the above-assigned rating to interested parties. Standard & Poor's reserves the right to inform its own clients, subscribers, and the public of the rating.

Standard & Poor's relies on the issuer/obligor and its counsel, accountants, and other experts for the accuracy and completeness of the information submitted in connection with the rating. This rating is based on financial information and documents we received prior to the issuance of this letter. Standard & Poor's assumes that the documents you have provided to us are final. If any subsequent changes were made in the final documents, you must notify us of such changes by sending us the revised final documents with the changes clearly marked.

To maintain the rating, Standard & Poor's must receive all relevant financial information as soon as such information is available. Placing us on a distribution list for this information would facilitate the process. You must promptly notify us of all material changes in the financial information and the documents. Standard & Poor's may change, suspend, withdraw, or place on

Ms. Cary Kennedy

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June 29, 2007

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Sincerely yours,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Standard & Poor's". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the "ly" and "enclosures" text.

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enclosures

cc: Mr. Charles Scheibe
Mr. Terry Casey

STANDARD & POOR'S

One Market
Steuart Tower, 15th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105-1000
tel 415 371-5004
reference no.: 874021

December 11, 2007

State of Colorado
140 State Capitol
Denver, CO 80203
Attention: Ms. Cary Kennedy, Colorado State Treasurer

Re: ***US\$310,100,000 Colorado, Tax & Revenue Anticipation Notes, (Education Loan Program), Series 2007B, dated: Date of Delivery, due: August 5, 2008***

Dear Ms. Kennedy:

Pursuant to your request for a Standard & Poor's rating on the above-referenced obligations, we have reviewed the information submitted to us and, subject to the enclosed *Terms and Conditions*, have assigned a rating of "SP-1+". Standard & Poor's views the outlook for this rating as not meaningful. A copy of the rationale supporting the rating is enclosed.

The rating is not investment, financial, or other advice and you should not and cannot rely upon the rating as such. The rating is based on information supplied to us by you or by your agents but does not represent an audit. We undertake no duty of due diligence or independent verification of any information. The assignment of a rating does not create a fiduciary relationship between us and you or between us and other recipients of the rating. We have not consented to and will not consent to being named an "expert" under the applicable securities laws, including without limitation, Section 7 of the Securities Act of 1933. The rating is not a "market rating" nor is it a recommendation to buy, hold, or sell the obligations.

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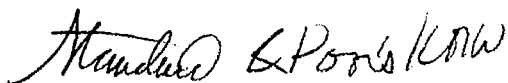
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cc: Mr. Charles Scheibe
Mr. Terry Casey

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Severability. In the event that any term or provision of this Agreement shall be held to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, then the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected, impaired, or invalidated, and each such term and provision shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

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